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CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of controlling service acquisition in a wireless local area network (WLAN) device, the method including the steps of:

determining a parameter that corresponds to a present environment for the WLAN device;

comparing said parameter to a predetermined value to provide a comparison, said predetermined value defining, in part, an environment where service for the WLAN device is desirable;

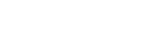
analyzing said comparison according to a rule to provide a decision; enabling a service acquisition mode when the decision is favorable; and foregoing said service acquisition mode when the decision is unfavorable.

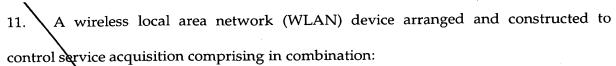
- 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of determining a parameter includes determining a location of the WLAN device.
- 3. The method of claim 2 wherein said determining said location uses one of a cellular zone ID, a global position system (GPS) signal, and a signal strength measurement.
- 4. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of determining a parameter includes determining a time at the WLAN device.

- 5. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of determining a parameter includes determining a state relevant to the WLAN device.
- 6. The method of claim 5 wherein said determining said state includes one of5 detecting a need for service and a reference to a schedule database.
 - 7. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of determining a parameter includes determining a combination of location, time, and state for the WLAN device.
 - 8. The method of claim 1 further including a step of providing said predetermined value for the WLAN device.
 - 9. The method of claim 8 wherein providing said predetermined value includes programming the WLAN device with one of a location, time, and state.
 - 10. The method of claim 8 wherein providing said predetermined value includes memorizing one of a location, time, and state when service has been acquired.

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- a transceiver for coupling to a second WLAN device;
- a user input output (I/O) for interacting with a user; and
- a controller coupled to said user I/O and said transceiver, for deciding whether said transceiver will enter a service acquisition mode thereby coupling to said second WLAN device by;

determining a parameter that corresponds to a present environment for the WLAN device;

comparing said parameter to a predetermined value to provide a comparison, said predetermined value defining, in part, an environment where service for the WLAN device is desirable;

analyzing said comparison according to a rule to provide a decision; enabling said service acquisition mode when the decision is favorable; and foregoing said service acquisition mode when the decision is unfavorable.

- 12. The WLAN device of claim 11 wherein said step of determining a parameter includes determining a location of the WLAN device.
- 20 13. The WLAN device of claim 12 wherein said determining said location uses one of a cellular zone ID, a global position system (GPS) signal, and a signal strength measurement.

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14. The WLAN device of claim 11 wherein said step of determining a parameter

includes determining a time at the WLAN device.

- 15. The WLAN device of claim 11 wherein said step of determining a parameter includes determining a state relevant to the WLAN device.
 - 16. The WLAN device of claim 15 wherein said determining said state includes one of detecting a need for service and a reference to a schedule database.
 - 17. The WLAN device of claim 11 wherein said step of determining a parameter includes determining a combination of location, time, and state for the WLAN device.
 - 18. The WLAN device of claim 11 further including a step of programming said predetermined value for the WLAN device.
 - 19. The WLAN device of claim 18 wherein providing said predetermined value includes programming the WLAN device with one of a location, time, and state.
- 20. The WLAN device of claim 18 wherein providing said predetermined value includes memorizing one of a location, time, and state when service has been acquired.
 - 21. The WLAN device of claim 11 arranged and constructed to operate within one of a Bluetooth, 802.11, and Home RF based wireless WLAN.